

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier version and listings.

1. (Currently Amended) An image communication apparatus comprising:
 - a selector, arranged to select a method of transmitting an image transmission by facsimile or a method of transmitting an image by attaching the image to e-mail;
 - a converter, arranged to perform color space conversion corresponding to the selected transmission method for an image to be transmitted ~~before a start of communication with a communication partner;~~
 - an encoder, arranged to encode the image subjected to the color space conversion; and
 - a transmitter, arranged to transmit the encoded image by the selected transmission method,

wherein said converter converts a color space of an image to be transmitted into a CIE Lab color space when the method of transmitting an image by facsimile is selected, or into a YCrCb color space when the method of transmitting an image by attaching the image to e-mail is selected, before a start of communication with a communication partner.

- 2.-4. (Canceled)

5. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said encoder performs JPEG coding.

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim ~~[[2]]~~ 1, wherein said transmitter comprises:

a modulator, arranged to modulate a signal on the basis of the encoded image when the method of transmitting an image by facsimile is selected; and

a generator, arranged to generate e-mail data containing the encoded image when the method of transmitting an image by attaching the image to e-mail is selected.

7. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said transmitter further comprises:

a PCM encoder, arranged to encode the modulated signal by PCM when the method of transmitting an image by facsimile is selected; and

a sender, arranged to send a PCM code to a digital communication line and send e-mail data to the Internet.

8. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a reader, arranged to read an image to be transmitted from an original and output an RGB-color-space image.

9. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising an inputter, arranged to input an image recorded in a memory medium as an image to be transmitted.

10. (Currently Amended) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

manually selecting a method of transmitting an image transmission by facsimile or a method of transmitting an image by attaching the image to e-mail;

performing color space conversion corresponding to the selected transmission method for an image to be transmitted before a start of communication with a communication partner;

encoding the image subjected to the color space conversion; and

transmitting the encoded image by the selected transmission method,

wherein said performing step includes converting a color space of an image to be transmitted into a CIELab color space when the method of transmitting an image by facsimile is selected, or into a YCrCb color space when the method of transmitting an image by attaching the image to e-mail is selected.

11. (Currently Amended) A computer program product stored on a computer readable medium comprising a computer program code, for an image communication method, the method comprising the steps of:

manually selecting a method of transmitting an image

transmission by facsimile or a method of transmitting an image by attaching the image to e-mail;

performing color space conversion corresponding to the selected transmission method for an image to be transmitted before a start of communication with a communication partner;

encoding the image subjected to the color space conversion; and
transmitting the encoded image by the selected transmission method,

wherein said performing step includes converting a color space of an image to be transmitted into a CIELab color space when the method of transmitting an image by facsimile is selected, or into a YCrCb color space when the method of transmitting an image by attaching the image to e-mail is selected.

12. (Currently Amended) An image communication apparatus comprising:

a selector, arranged to select an image transmission destination;
a converter, arranged to perform color space conversion corresponding to the selected transmission destination for an image to be transmitted ~~before a start of communication with the selected destination;~~
an encoder, arranged to encode the image subjected to the color space conversion; and

a transmitter, arranged to transmit the encoded image by a transmission method corresponding to the selected transmission destination,

wherein said converter converts the color space of an image to be transmitted into a CIE Lab color space when the transmission method is facsimile, or into a YCrCb color space when the transmission method is e-mail attached the image, before a start of communication with a communication partner.

13.-15. (Canceled)

16. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said encoder performs JPEG coding.

17. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim ~~[[13]]~~ 12, wherein said transmitter comprises:

a modulator, arranged to modulate a signal on the basis of the encoded image when the transmission destination corresponds to the method of transmitting an image by facsimile; and

a generator, arranged to generate e-mail data containing the encoded image when the transmission destination corresponds to the method of transmitting an image by attaching the image to e-mail.

18. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 17, wherein said transmitter further comprises:

a PCM encoder, arranged to encode the modulated signal by PCM when the transmission destination corresponds to the method of transmitting an image by facsimile; and

a sender, arranged to send a PCM code to a digital communication line and send e-mail data to the Internet.

19. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising a reader, arranged to read an image to be transmitted from an original and output an RGB-color-space image.

20. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising an inputter, arranged to input an image recorded in a memory medium as an image to be transmitted.

21. (Currently Amended) An image communication method comprising the steps of:

manually selecting an image transmission destination;

performing color space conversion corresponding to the selected transmission destination for an image to be transmitted before a start of communication with the selected destination;

encoding the image subjected to the color space conversion; and

transmitting the encoded image by a transmission method corresponding to the selected transmission destination,

wherein said performing step includes converting a color space of an image to be transmitted into a CIE Lab color space when the transmission method is facsimile, or into a YCrCb color space when the transmission method is e-mail attached to image.

22. (Currently Amended) A computer program product stored on a computer readable medium comprising a computer program code, for an image communication method, the method comprising the steps of:

manually selecting an image transmission destination;

performing color space conversion corresponding to the selected transmission destination for an image to be transmitted before a start of communication with the selected destination;

encoding the image subjected to the color space conversion; and

transmitting the encoded image by a transmission method

corresponding to the selected transmission destination,

wherein said performing step includes converting a color space of an image to be transmitted into a CIE Lab color space when the transmission method is facsimile, or into a YCrCb color space when the transmission method is e-mail attached the image.